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# Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 29 | Min 22 | Humidity 76% Scattered Showers Sensex 80,501 | Nifty 24,346 | Gold 92,700 | Silver 93,151 | Dollar 84.31 | Euro 95.78 | GBP 112.32

**Over 5 lakh two-wheeler riders caught without helmets already till March this year; several pillion riders too threw caution out of the equation — experts, officials say sense of safe and responsible riding needs to be inculcated in training**

# RECKLESS RIDER, USE YOUR HEAD

## 2 lakh+ drivers did not bother to wear seatbelts

| Sanjana CS
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

We may have pothole-ridden roads, chaotic traffic, and near-apocalyptic peak hour rush, but reckless riding persists. Recent data released by the Traffic Police reveals that over 5 lakh two-wheeler riders were caught helmetless up to March this year. That's not a glitch in the matrix — it's 5,07,833 instances of people choosing convenience over caution.

Even more disturbing is that 2,66,107 pillion riders also ditched the helmet, as though the backseat offers immunity from disaster. Add another 2,03,272 drivers and passengers caught without seatbelts, and you begin to see a pattern — one of alarming indifference towards basic safety.

"It's my life—I have to protect it," says traffic advisor and expert MN Shreehari, striking a philosophical note amid grim statistics. "Luck is one thing, individuality is another, but the concept of safety must be ingrained in everyone's mind—especially when we're on the roads.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

**"Speed, road conditions, weather, and vehicle type — these are factors beyond control. But wearing a helmet? That's a choice** — MN Shreehari, traffic expert

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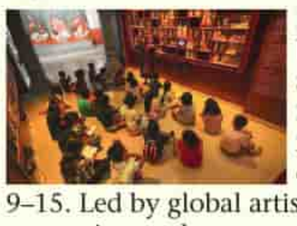
## THINGS TO DO

### 01 Dastkar returns

A vibrant celebration of Indian crafts, culture, and cuisine featuring 160+ artisan groups. Now at Freedom Park with live folk art, workshops, and more. **Where: Freedom Park, Seshadri Road, Gandhi; When: May 14–20, 11.00 am to 8.00 pm**

### 02 Music meets nature



IME's summer camp blends songwriting, sound recording, and instrument-making in nature to spark musical creativity in kids aged 9–15. Led by global artists CITOPIR, it fosters expression and teamwork through art and sound. **Where: Indian Music Experience Museum; When: May 6–10,10.00 am to 1.00 pm**

### 03 Toon time

Orion Malls teams up with Cartoon Network and Discovery Kids to bring beloved characters, games, and interactive fun for kids this summer. Meet Titoo, Johnny Bravo, Teen Titans and more across three city malls. **Where: Orion Mall (Brigade Gateway, Cooke Town, Whitefield-Hoskote Cross); When: Till May 11, Free Entry**

### 04 Meet up

Join bestselling author Ravinder Singh for an evening of real conversations, curated connections, and relaxed fun at Let's Socialise. Enjoy great food, activities, and meet like-minded professionals in a classy vibe. **Where: Mannheim Craft Brewery, RMZ Ecoworld; When: May 11, 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm**

### 05 Hi life glam

Explore luxe fashion, jewellery, décor, and summer must-haves at the Hi Life Exhibition—your one-stop destination for all things stylish and sophisticated. **Where: The Lalit Ashok; When: May 2–4, 10.00 am to 8.00 pm**

# Private schools urge CM for overhaul of SSLC exams

## Call for fairer exams, NCF alignment, dual-level tests

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In a unified voice, private unaided schools across Karnataka have submitted a formal appeal to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging the state government to implement policy-level reforms in the SSLC (Secondary School Leaving Certificate) examination system. The schools have raised serious concerns that the current system is proving to be unjust and harmful to students, particularly when benchmarked against other Indian states and national education boards like CBSE and ICSE.

The Karnataka Associated Managements of Schools (KAMS), which represents thousands of private unaided schools, has voiced increasing dissatisfaction with the state's examination policies. In a memorandum submitted to the Chief Minister, the schools urged immediate reforms, citing documentation including the 2023 NCERT curriculum review and successful models adopted in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Puducherry.

D Shashi Kumar, general secretary of KAMS, said the current SSLC evaluation system is outdated and fails to reflect the academic needs and diverse capabilities of students. "Karnataka must urgently modernize its examination approach to ensure fairness and academic well-being for lakhs of students," he stated.

Students of a city school celebrate the SSLC results, on Friday

**"The memorandum submitted to the Chief Minister highlights growing dissatisfaction backed by documentation, including the findings of the 2023 NCERT curriculum review and progressive educational models**

– D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary of KAMS

Among the key reforms proposed is a reduction in the minimum passing mark from 35% to 33%, bringing Karnataka in line with national norms. Schools are also calling for a blended model of internal and external assessments to support a more holistic evaluation method.

The memorandum further recommends aligning the state curriculum with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) and NCERT guidelines to standardize learning outcomes. Schools are also pushing for dual-level examination options—Basic and Standard—in core subjects like Mathematics and Science.

To foster continuous learning from an early stage, the schools propose implementing formative assessments from Grade 1 onwards. They stress that future education policies must be aligned with the goals of NCF 2023 and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to ensure a consistent, student-centric academic framework. "These reforms are essential interventions to safeguard the academic future of our students," Kumar added.

## KSRTC crash kills three

Three people lost their lives and four others sustained serious injuries in a tragic road accident near Mallarabanarawadi Cross in Nelamangala on Saturday. The incident occurred when a KSRTC bus, traveling from Shantinagar to Nelamangala, collided with an auto that was attempting a U-turn near the highway. According to the police, all the victims were residents of Yeshwanthpur and had visited the village two days earlier for a family event. Fortunately, no bus passengers were injured. Nelamangala Traffic Police and toll staff rushed to the spot. The injured were shifted to a government hospital, and a case has been registered. **— BMB**

## Complaint filed against Sonu Nigam

A formal complaint has been filed at Avalahalli Police Station against singer Sonu Nigam by A Dharmaraj, President of the Karnataka Rakshana Bedike, over alleged inflammatory remarks during an April 25 concert at East Point College, Virgonagar. Nigam reportedly responded to a student's Kannada song request by saying, "Kannada, Kannada, Kannada, this is why the Pahalgam incident happened," referencing the April 22 terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir. The remark allegedly offended the Kannadiga community. Police have registered a case under IPC Sections 351(2), 352(1), and 353 and begun investigation. **— BMB**

# NGT clears BBMP sewer line in bird reserve area

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The southern zone of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has permitted the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to construct a 600-meter sewer line inside the Yelahanka-Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve area. The tribunal passed the order on Friday, citing the urgency to ensure that sewage is not released into the lake during the upcoming monsoon.

In its ruling, the NGT noted that the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) had requested immediate permission to begin the work, aiming to prevent sewage from entering Puttenahalli Lake during the monsoon. The tribunal modified its previous order that had halted the construction of the sewer line in the 600-meter stretch. Authorities are now allowed to resume the work.

Nearly a year ago, the NGT had ordered BBMP to stop digging at the lake to lay the pipeline after the Yelahanka-Puttenahalli Lake and Bird Conservation Trust raised concerns about the impact on the reserve. Following this order in June 2024, all activities, including earth digging and pipe installation, had been halted until further permission was granted.

This intervention followed an incident in which a storm water drain in the area released thousands of litres of sewage into the lake from nearby residential areas. In response, BBMP and BWSSB decided to lay two pipelines within the reserve to direct sewage to the nearest BWSSB sewage treatment plant in Yelahanka.

The recent NGT order not only permits the agencies to continue their work but also directs BWSSB to ensure that the sewer network proposed for the residential area is completed. It mandates that no sewage should enter the Rajakaluve. The NGT has, however, maintained its stay on the laying of hume pipes in the Rajakaluve area.

During the NGT hearing, the BWSSB Chief Engineer explained that sewage from the upstream would be collected through an underground network, bypassing the Rajakaluve from Athur Lake to the point where it drains into Puttenahalli Lake. In areas where a walkway has already been constructed, the underground sewer line is planned to be placed beneath it.

BWSSB to lay 600m sewer line under walkway in reserve

The Chief Engineer on Friday, further informed the tribunal that, instead of manholes, the sewer lines would be fitted with machine holes to prevent any sewage overflow, even in the event of submersion. This solution addresses concerns about contamination and ensures the sewer system operates efficiently.

The proposed 600-meter sewer line, however, must be placed beneath an existing walkway along land classified as 'Tank.' The area has seen construction activity, with buildings now encroaching near the walkway's border, complicating the construction process. Nevertheless, the authorities have outlined the necessary plans to ensure the work proceeds smoothly within the designated parameters.

CRIME FILES

# CCB busts IPL ticket racket

A black-marketing racket involving the high-demand Tata IPL T-20 match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Chennai Super Kings (CSK), scheduled at Chinnaswamy Stadium on Saturday, was busted by the Special Investigation Squad of the Central Crime Branch (CCB). In total, 32 tickets (each valued at ₹1,200), four mobile phones, and ₹1 lakh in cash, amounting to ₹1.78 lakh, were seized.

Acting on information received on Friday, CCB officers tracked illegal ticket sales taking place at Kalasanthe under Yeshwanthpur Police limits. A swift operation was launched on Pipeline Road, where one suspect was apprehended. On interrogation, he admitted to selling tickets at inflated rates. Police seized 12 IPL tickets and one mobile phone from him.

Following further investigation, the accused revealed the involvement of three accomplices. On Saturday, the CCB team arrested the remaining suspects near the Shell Petrol Station on Millers Road. From their possession, officers recovered 20 more tickets, three mobile phones, and ₹1 lakh in cash.

The arrested individuals have been identified as Charan Raj, Vinay, Venkatasai Kiran, and Harshvardhan. A case has been registered at Yeshwanthpur Police Station, and the investigation is ongoing.

# Driver ends life over loan

A 21-year-old driver from Kalaburagi ended his life in a rented house in Chikkabanavara under the Soladevanahalli Police Station limits, unable to cope with mounting debt from a car loan.

The deceased, identified as Devaraj, had purchased a car last year through a loan to rent it out to cover his monthly EMI payments. Initially hopeful, Devaraj reportedly worked tirelessly day and night to keep up with his commitments.

However, in recent months, he faced significant financial hardship as he was unable to generate enough income through rentals.

According to sources, two months' EMI had remained unpaid, and the lending bank had issued a notice to recover the dues. Already under severe stress, the notice allegedly pushed Devaraj into despair. On Thursday, he was found dead in his rented home in Chikkabanavara.

Police from Soladevanahalli Station have registered a case and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident. The body has been sent for postmortem.

# Advocate found dead, probe on

A city-based advocate, Jagadish, was found dead under mysterious circumstances on the NICE Road stretch between Bannerghatta and Kanakapura on Friday evening. His body is located nearly 200 metres away from his car, prompting police to investigate whether it was a road accident or a case of foul play.

The incident comes to light between 7:30 pm and 8:00 pm when a damaged car is found on the roadside, with visible dents at both the front and rear. Preliminary observations indicate possible signs of a scuffle or collision, prompting suspicion of foul play.

Kengeri police have registered a case and are probing the incident from multiple angles. The body has been sent to Victoria Hospital for a post-mortem examination to determine the exact cause of death.

CCTV footage from the surrounding area is currently being reviewed for leads. Officers have not ruled out any possibilities, whether the advocate was intentionally targeted, if a confrontation escalated fatally, or if an accident turned deadly. Investigation ongoing.

# Police seize 1.02 kg ganja stash

Sampigehalli police arrested a man for selling ganja at the AJBJ Ground. The suspect was caught in the act during an operation. The police officials seized 1 kg 20 grams of the banned substance worth ₹45,000, bringing an end to the peddler's street-side trade.

Based on a tip-off received on April 27, police were informed that a person was selling ganja to the public at the AJBJ ground within Sampigehalli Police Station limits. Acting swiftly, a team of officers conducted a raid at the location and apprehended the accused.

Upon interrogation, the man confessed that he had purchased ganja at a cheaper rate from an unidentified individual near the Dinnur bus stand.

He admitted to reselling the drug at higher prices for profit.

The police seized the entire quantity—1.02 kg—of ganja from his possession.

A case has been registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act at the Sampigehalli Police Station. The accused was produced before the Court on April 28 and has been remanded to judicial custody.

# K-RERA, just a paper tiger: Home buyers

The Karnataka Real Estate Regulatory Authority (K-RERA), established to protect homebuyers and regulate the real estate sector, is now being criticised for its lack of enforcement, raising concerns about whether it has become a "toothless tiger."

K-RERA data reveals that of the 1,660 recovery orders issued involving `758.85 crore, only 233 cases have seen action, resulting in a recovery of `91.88 crore.

A staggering 1,427 cases, amounting to `666.97 crore, remain pending, with little to no enforcement action taken against the defaulting builders.

Eight years after the implementation of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act in Karnataka, homebuyers who once hoped the legislation would resolve their grievances are now disillusioned. Many are

withdrawing their cases, citing K-RERA's ineffectiveness in ensuring justice or compliance with its orders.

On March 19 alone, over 10 cases were withdrawn by frustrated buyers. Several homebuyers fighting prolonged battles allege that despite receiving favourable orders from K-RERA, builders are not complying. Even recovery orders have failed to bring results.

### Inaction against unregistered projects

Another growing concern is the lack of action against unregistered housing projects. Since 2017, over 1,050 complaints have been filed with K-RERA regarding unregistered projects.

In most cases, the authority has merely issued notices to builders and taken no further action, prompting complainants to abandon their cases. As a result, many homebuyers are now opting for alternate legal routes, including approaching the High Court.

Speaking on the issue, a home buyer said, "K-RERA has failed to deliver justice. It is nothing more than a paper tiger. In the case of Orion Urbana alone, more than 590 complaints have been filed, and 214 of them have received orders directing the builder to repay crores of rupees.

Yet, no action has been taken to enforce those orders. We are now taking our fight directly to the High Court."

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# Centre to enforce new safety features in commercial vehicles

## Government mandates Advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), ABS, and lane warnings to tackle driver fatigue and overload risks

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A new system to enhance the safety of commercial vehicles will soon be implemented, aimed at reducing accidents on Indian roads. According to a recent draft notification from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, commercial vehicles will be required to adopt advanced safety technologies, including overload alerts, lane departure warnings, and driver fatigue detection systems. These features are designed to ensure safer road practices and prevent accidents, especially those caused by overloaded vehicles or driver errors. The technology will alert drivers through audio or visual signals if the vehicle experiences issues such as veering off the lane or if the driver shows signs of fatigue.

### Rising road accidents in India

India has seen a sharp increase in road accidents in recent years. Government data from 2022 reveals that over 4.22 lakh accidents were reported across the country, with Karnataka alone accounting for 39,762 accidents, leading to 17,888 fatalities. In Madhya Pradesh, 54,432 accidents resulted in 13,427 deaths, and Uttar Pradesh reported 41,746 accidents, with 22,595 fatalities. Commercial vehicles are responsible for 25% of these accidents, primarily due to overloading, violation of safety rules, and driver fatigue, especially during night driving. To address this alarming situation, the central government has mandated stricter safety standards for commercial vehicles.

### Rising accidents in Bengaluru

Police sources said that Bengaluru has witnessed a significant rise in road accidents over the past four years. The number of accidents and fatalities has doubled since 2020. In 2020, Bengaluru reported 1,928 accidents, whereas this number increased to 3,969 accidents in 2024. The death toll has also surged, with 344 fatalities in 2020 compared to 723 deaths in 2024. This alarming rise in accidents has prompted the government to implement stricter safety measures, particularly for school buses and other commercial vehicles operating in the city.

### Stricter school bus safety regulations

With the rising number of school bus accidents, the government has introduced more stringent safety regulations for school buses. These include the mandatory installation of anti-lock braking systems (ABS) and other safety technologies. The central government has extended the deadline for these requirements to October 2025, allowing school buses sufficient time to comply with the new standards.

### Mandatory safety features for commercial vehicles

According to the draft report, the safety regulations also mandate that all new commercial vehicles, manufactured after April 1, 2025, must be equipped with the latest safety technologies. These include advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), anti-lock braking systems, and lane departure warning systems. Additionally, older vehicles on the road will have to comply with these regulations by January 2025, ensuring that all commercial vehicles adhere to modern safety standards. The Ministry's draft notification outlines these new requirements, signalling a major step toward improving road safety across the country.

With the goal of reducing road accidents across India and enhance the safety of commercial vehicles, a new safety system will soon be implemented

### How the alert system works

The new alert system uses various technologies to detect driver fatigue and alert the driver in real time. The system monitors steering and wheel movements, as well as the driver's gaze to detect signs of fatigue. If fatigue is detected, the system will immediately send an audio or visual alert to the driver. In addition, the system includes vibration alerts in the seat, beeping sounds, or flashing lights to warn the driver of any dangerous situation, such as lane departure or the presence of other vehicles or pedestrians.

### Key safety features and benefits

A transport department official said, "The new system's key features include fatigue detection, lane departure warnings, and emergency braking systems, including the anti-lock braking system (ABS). These features are designed to reduce accident rates, protect pedestrians and cyclists, and help drivers avoid dangerous situations. By alerting drivers to fatigue or potential hazards on the road, the system ensures that drivers can take appropriate action before accidents occur, ultimately saving lives and reducing road fatalities."

# Restoring lakes, recycling sewage key to solving water crisis

## City faces summer water shortage due to urbanisation and groundwater depletion; experts call for regulating water extraction and implementing sustainable practices

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has suggested removing encroachment on lakes and utilising treated sewage as some of the measures to deal with Bengaluru's water scarcity in summer. Researchers from CGWB say Bengaluru's water crisis stems from rapid urbanisation, population growth, and groundwater depletion and requires immediate and long-term interventions.

"Removing encroachments on lakes and desilting them can enhance groundwater recharge and mitigate flooding. Utilising treated sewage from BWSSB's STPs for lake recharge and public use can conserve freshwater," CGWB has noted in a study conducted by its researchers to investigate the root causes of summer water crisis in the city.

Researchers have also proposed viable solutions for the effective mitigation of scarcity.

Urban lakes in Bengaluru, vital for groundwater recharge, are under threat amid the city's worsening water crisis.

As per the analysis, the city has experienced 37.75% less rainfall in 2023 compared to the decadal average annual rainfall. The stage of groundwater extraction has increased from 193% in the year 2022 to 217% in 2023, and the city was categorised as "over-exploited." The study reveals that the rainfall deficit in the past, coupled with escalating groundwater extraction rates and adverse land use practices, is exacerbating the depletion of aquifers and drying up of borewells.

"The demand for water in the city is estimated to be 1,891 million litres per day (MLD), out of which the current supply after losses is calculated to be 1,273 MLD, leading to a deficit of 618 MLD. Furthermore, areas lacking a comprehensive Cauvery water supply exhibit deeper water levels, highlighting disparities in access to groundwater resources," noted CGWB researchers. To address these challenges, they suggest a multifaceted approach encompassing regulatory measures, technological interventions, and community engagement.

"Large residential complexes must implement recharge trenches, while bulk water suppliers should be regulated to prevent over-extraction. Enforcing rainwater harvesting laws, penalising freshwater misuse, and promoting water-saving fixtures can further reduce demand. Additionally, exploring alternative surface water sources like Yettinahole and Mekadatu projects will help ensure Bengaluru's long-term water sustainability," noted researchers.

— BMB

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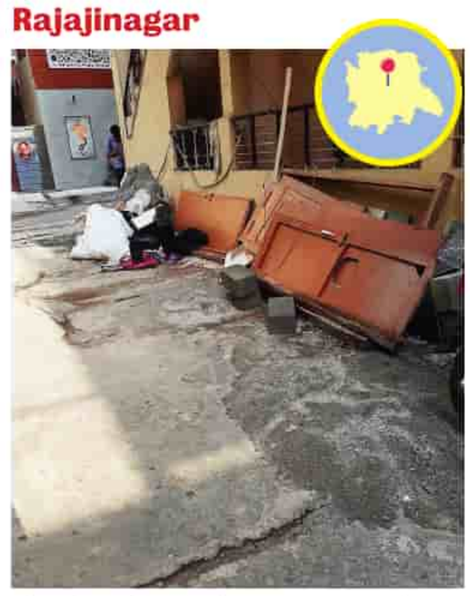
### Road blockage

**Rajajinagar**



Construction debris dumped by a building owner near an apartment, 1st K Block, Rajajinagar is obstructing the road, causing inconvenience to the public and creating a safety hazard.

### Abandoned vehicle

**Kudlu**

A vehicle left unattended for two years opposite the subway in AECS Layout near Parappana Agrahara, Kudlu, is occupying half the road, causing difficulties for four-wheelers to navigate the stretch.

### Platform encroachment

**KSR Station**

Vendors have illegally occupied Platforms 8 and 9 at KSR Bengaluru station, causing severe congestion on Platform 9. Despite the disruption, railway police have taken no action, exacerbating the crowding problem.

THE SUNDAY READ

# Game over: No space!

**Bengaluru's rapid urbanisation is shrinking playgrounds, leading to health issues like obesity and mobile addiction among children; as open spaces vanish, experts warn of long-term impact on kids' physical and mental development**

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In the heart of Bengaluru, the city's skyline is rising, but its open grounds are fast disappearing. Once alive with the sounds of children playing cricket, football, and running races, today's neighbourhoods are filled more with apartment complexes, malls, and congested streets. As playgrounds vanish due to rapid urbanisation, children are not only losing out on fun but also facing serious health consequences, including obesity, mobile addiction, and mental health issues.

"Playgrounds are not just places for recreation; they are essential for emotional and physical development," says Dr Aparna Nair, a child psychologist based in Bengaluru. "When children are deprived of natural play spaces, they turn to virtual worlds, leading to addiction to mobile phones, social isolation, and early signs of lifestyle diseases."

The decline in public play spaces is visible. A recent survey by Janaagraha, a Bengaluru-based NGO, revealed that the city has less than 0.5 acres of playground per 1,000 residents, far below the standards recommended by the World Health Organisation. Many existing grounds are either encroached upon, converted into parking lots, or left unattended, making them unusable and unsafe for children.

Adding to this, M Kumar, General Secretary of the Karnataka State Football Association (KSFA), highlights the practical challenges faced by today's children. "The grounds are not available — where should the kids go and play? Though they are small, they can't play big games because of limited space and time. It's extremely difficult for kids to play and run around freely. Even neighbours need to allow kids to play and be more understanding, but they aren't. There's no space to convert into playgrounds in urban or rural areas. Even in schools that have grounds, access is restricted to working hours. If they open the grounds to the public afterwards, there's the risk of damage, and the security staff will be held responsible. I feel schools can come forward, but honestly, I don't think anyone will accept such a suggestion."

> **"The grounds are not available, where should the kids go and play? It's extremely difficult for kids to play and run around freely. Even neighbours need to allow kids to play and be more understanding**
>
> –M Kumar, KSFA

For many who grew up in Bengaluru during the 80s and 90s, the sight of children playing in the open was a common and cherished memory. Ravi Shetty, 42, a software engineer, recalls, "We would make stumps out of bricks and play until sunset. Every neighbourhood had at least one small ground. We made friends, fought, learned teamwork, and most importantly, stayed active."

Similarly, Priya Naik, now a fitness coach, says, "We didn't need gyms back then. Running after a ball on uneven ground kept us fit. Today's kids, unfortunately, don't have that natural exercise, and it's showing in rising obesity levels."

Another nostalgic voice comes from Anil Kumar, a businessman who fondly remembers, "We would organise tournaments among colonies with nothing but a tennis ball and a bat made from old wood. Winning felt like winning a World Cup."

Without accessible playgrounds, children are increasingly hooked to mobile phones, gaming consoles, and television screens. The physical activity that once kept them fit is now being replaced by sedentary routines. Paediatricians note that the number of overweight and obese children in Bengaluru has nearly doubled over the last decade.

Experts like Dr Nair continue to emphasise that the connection between open spaces and children's well-being cannot be ignored. "When children play outside, they not only burn calories but also develop vital social skills, resilience, and confidence. Mobile phones offer instant gratification but do not teach patience, teamwork, or problem-solving like real-world play does," she adds.

Urban planners and civic groups are now calling for change, suggesting mandatory allocation of land for parks and playgrounds in new residential developments. But change has been slow, and an entire generation risks growing up without the simple joy of kicking a ball in the open air.

The vanishing playgrounds of Bengaluru reflect more than just a symptom of urban growth; they mark a deeper loss for the city's future generations. As cities expand, ensuring that children have the space to simply be children must become a priority. After all, a healthier, happier city starts from its playgrounds.

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# BWSSB plans one-time settlement to recover ₹616 crore in dues

## Facing a Rs 51-crore monthly shortfall, board seeks government nod to waive penalties and interest

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BWSSB caters to around 1.55 crore citizens with 11.14 lakh water connections

Facing a severe financial crunch due to rising maintenance costs and a decade-long stagnation in water tariffs, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is planning to implement a One-Time Settlement (OTS) scheme to recover over ₹616 crore in pending water and sewage service charges from defaulting customers.

Bengaluru, one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, currently has more than 11.14 lakh water connections provided by BWSSB, catering to the needs of approximately 1.55 crore residents. The agency sources water from the Cauvery River, located 100 km away, with water and sewage charges serving as its primary revenue source.

### Massive dues and operational deficit

A senior BWSSB official said that several government departments, residential buildings, and commercial establishments have failed to clear their dues regularly, putting immense pressure on the agency's finances. The board is now struggling to meet its monthly operational expenses, which have surged to ₹170 crore, against a monthly income of ₹119.6 crore—leaving a deficit of nearly ₹51 crore each month.

The board currently provides over 9 lakh residential and 2 lakh non-residential (commercial, industrial, government) connections. Of the total dues, residential connections owe ₹316.11 crore, while commercial connections account for ₹135.55 crore. Government departments have also defaulted significantly, with central government agencies owing ₹95.99 crore and state departments 69 crore. In total, BWSSB has pending electricity bills worth ₹566 crore, with a monthly electricity expense of ₹59 crore. Once the Cauvery Stage V project becomes fully operational, this cost is expected to shoot up to 86.07 crore, pushing the board's overall monthly maintenance costs beyond ₹210 crore."

> **As an autonomous body, BWSSB has not received any government grants in the last three years. Yet, it has been tasked with handling Bengaluru's water crisis during summers**
>
> –Dr Ram Prasath Manohar, Chairman of BWSSB

### OTS to mirror BBMP'S property tax recovery model

To recover these dues, BWSSB is considering a One-Time Settlement scheme modeled on the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) successful property tax recovery drive. Under the proposed scheme, defaulters would be allowed to settle their principal dues in a single payment, with interest and penalties waived off. The scheme is likely to begin in May.

### Awaiting government approval

BWSSB Chairman Dr Ram Prasath Manohar said the board, despite being an autonomous body, has not received any government grants in the last three years. "We have taken on additional responsibilities, including maintaining over 1,145 RO units and 4,000 borewells. Given the rising costs, the OTS scheme is a necessary step. We will seek government approval before launching it," he said.

## Don't lose your head

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

People may feel they're driving correctly, but they don't know how others on the road will act. Every accident involves more than one vehicle," he added.

### Dangerous driving lessons

Shreehari pointed out that many private driving schools do not require trainees to wear helmets while learning to ride. "Part of the problem begins at the source -- at driving schools. To pursue medicine, you need five years. To drive? Just ten days," Shreehari said. " How can someone learn all the necessary skills in just 10 days? Driving requires proper training. Today, when it comes to driving, the 'S' in 'skill' has gone silent—and too often, it ends in killing."

BM spoke to a driving school instructor to understand this. The instructor said, "Developing the habit of wearing a helmet depends on the individual. At times, we do emphasise on wearing a helmet while trainees are learning to ride on the road, but we may not insist on it when they are practising within the grounds."

Shreehari said that like any form of education, learning to ride should begin with instilling discipline. "Just like we graduate from school with basic ethics, drivers should graduate from training with an ingrained sense of safety and road responsibility— starting with the helmet."

### Tragedy strikes

Recently, Harish V, a beverage distributor from Chunchaghatta Main Road, died after losing control of his bike near the Nayandahalli railway underbridge around 10.30 pm. According to preliminary investigation it emerged that he wasn't wearing a helmet and had sustained fatal head injuries.

"There are 83 reasons an accident can happen. In any given accident, a combination of 20 to 30 factors may be at play, including the relationship between vehicle speed and the severity of injuries. Speed, road conditions, weather, and vehicle type — these are factors beyond control. But wearing a helmet? That's a choice," Shreehari said.

He said that one major issue is that people develop a false sense of confidence or pick up bad habits—thinking, 'If others aren't wearing a helmet, why should I?'

Traffic officials have consistently emphasised the importance of wearing helmets and seatbelts. A traffic official said that several awareness campaigns have been launched in the city and enforcement drives have been intensified. However, the high numbers suggest that mere enforcement may not be enough; a deeper shift in public mindset towards road safety is urgently needed.

# No new takers as existing Jan Dhan accounts lie dormant

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Women queue outside a bank to open Jan Dhan accounts (file photo)

The Central Government's flagship financial inclusion scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), aimed at ensuring every citizen has a bank account, is witnessing a growing trend of account inactivity, overtaking the rate of new account openings over the past four years. This shift in trajectory raises questions about the long-term engagement and effectiveness of the scheme.

Recent data from the Ministry of Finance reveals that 11.57 crore Jan Dhan accounts are currently inactive nationwide. These dormant accounts have outpaced new account openings each year since 2020–21, signalling a concerning shift in the scheme's progress. In Karnataka alone, around 50,000 accounts are currently inactive, with an estimated 15,000 to 30,000 added to the count each year.

Reasons for inactivity include financial fraud investigations, account holder deaths, directives from the Income Tax Department or courts, and prolonged non-usage. While account deactivation and reactivation are part of a continuous cycle, the growing number of dormant accounts has prompted concern among financial experts and policymakers.

Since its launch, the Jan Dhan scheme has facilitated the opening of 55.17 crore accounts with a cumulative balance of 2.61 lakh crore. However, with 11.57 crore accounts now inactive, and assuming even a minimal balance of 10 per account, more than 1,100 crore currently lies unused in these dormant accounts.

Experts point out that transaction limits, especially in postal bank-linked Jan Dhan accounts, have contributed to decreased usage. Many of these accounts saw a spike during the rollout of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) guarantees but gradually slipped into inactivity due to lack of awareness or sustained usage.

> **Inactive accounts are those that are not used for long periods without any transactions or updates. However, account holders can reactivate their accounts by submitting valid documentation to the bank**
>
> –Bank manager

A bank manager explained, "Inactive accounts are those with no transactions or updates over a long period. These can be reactivated by submitting valid documents at the bank. However, if an account remains dormant for 10 years, its funds are transferred to the Reserve Bank of India."

Over the past five years, the trend has been consistent. In 2020–21, 3.87 crore accounts were opened or reactivated, while 5.94 crore turned inactive. The gap widened with 2.86 crore new versus 6.57 crore inactive accounts in 2021–22, and 3.59 crore new versus 9.45 crore inactive in 2022–23. The trend continued in 2023–24 with 3.29 crore new accounts compared to 10.21 crore inactive ones. The current financial year saw only 2.71 crore new or reactivated accounts, against 11.57 crore that became inactive — the widest gap yet.

Bank officials and financial experts stress the need for ongoing public awareness, simplified account management.

# B'luru's commercial streets go pay & park way

## Civic agency will introduce hourly parking charges, ₹15 for two-wheelers and ₹30 for cars, on select roads; this move is expected to generate ₹7 crore annually in first phase

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning to implement a pay-and-park system in the city's commercial areas. In the first phase, the system will be introduced on 14 streets, including prominent ones like MG Road, Brigade Road, and Commercial Street. The system will involve charging fees for parking on these roads, with the management being outsourced to a contractor. Following this, vehicle owners will be required to pay fees to park their vehicles on these streets. The new system is part of the city's "Parking Policy 2.0", developed by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT), which aims to extend the pay-and-park system across all city areas.

New rule: Commercial buildings must provide separate or basement parking

### Increasing vehicle numbers pose challenge

An official said, "As the city's population grows, so does the number of vehicles. Bengaluru now has 1.25 crore vehicles, with almost every person owning a vehicle. However, parking facilities have not kept pace with this increase, leading to severe parking shortages. New buildings are not being designed with adequate parking spaces, and many buildings do not offer parking spaces proportional to the number of units. As a result, vehicles are often parked on streets, exacerbating traffic congestion."

> **"Bengaluru now has 1.25 crore vehicles, with almost every person owning vehicle. However, parking facilities have not kept pace with this increase, leading to severe parking shortages** –Official

DULT estimates that providing parking for just 50% of the city's vehicles would require 13,000 acres of land. If the current rate of vehicle growth continues, Bengaluru will see four times the number of vehicles in the next decade, further straining the city's infrastructure.

### Parking solutions

To tackle this issue, DULT has introduced a comprehensive parking management plan, hoping to reduce private vehicle usage and encourage the use of public transport. However, this plan has not yet been fully implemented. The city's traffic problems, especially in commercial districts, continue to worsen due to insufficient parking provisions. As part of the new initiative, commercial buildings are now required to have separate parking arrangements or reserve basement levels for parking. However, adherence to this regulation remains limited.

### Expected revenue

BBMP anticipates an annual revenue of 7 crore from the pay-and-park system in the first phase, with the scheme being implemented on 14 key commercial streets. Roads like Church Street, St Mark's Road, Museum Road, Lavelle Road, and Kasturba Road are already covered under this system. Private contractors have been given the task of managing these areas.

### Fees and clarity issues

Under the new system, two-wheelers will be charged 15 per hour, and cars will be charged 30 per hour. However, the pricing has been criticised for being expensive. There is also a lack of clarity regarding how much will be charged for vehicles parked for more than an hour.

### Suspension of smart parking system

BBMP had previously contracted a private company, Central Parking Services, to implement a smart parking system on 85 commercial streets in the city centre. Although some roads saw the introduction of parking fees, the system was later suspended. The future of smart parking remains uncertain.

**IPL 2025**

## RCB set up tall task for CSK

1. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Jacob Bethell, left, celebrates scoring runs with batting partner Virat Kohli during the IPL match between RCB and Chennai Super Kings at Chinnaswamy Stadium on Saturday

2. Chennai Super Kings' Ravindra Jadeja and Matheesha Pathirana attempt to take a catch

Virat Kohli and Jacob Bethel did the early running with well-crafted fifties, while Romario Shepherd applied the finishing touches with a brutal 14-ball unbeaten half-century as Royal Challengers Bengaluru raced to a massive 213 for five against Chennai Super Kings in an IPL match here on Saturday. The Super Kings skipper MS Dhoni decided to bowl first after winning the toss, but the decision played handsomely into RCB's hands as Kohli and Bethel merrily chugged along to make 97 runs in just 9.5 overs for the opening wicket. Kohli (62 off 33 balls) and Bethel (55 off 33) exploited a fuss-free pitch to telling effect, and their job was made much easier by the wrong lines of CSK bowlers, which was evidenced when Shepherd (53 not out off 14 balls; 4x4, 6X6) made the joint second fastest fifty in the IPL. The fastest fifty of the IPL was struck off just 13 balls by Yashasvi Jaiswal in 2023, while both KL Rahul (in 2018) and Pat Cummins (2022) had also earlier made half centuries off 14 balls. **PTI**

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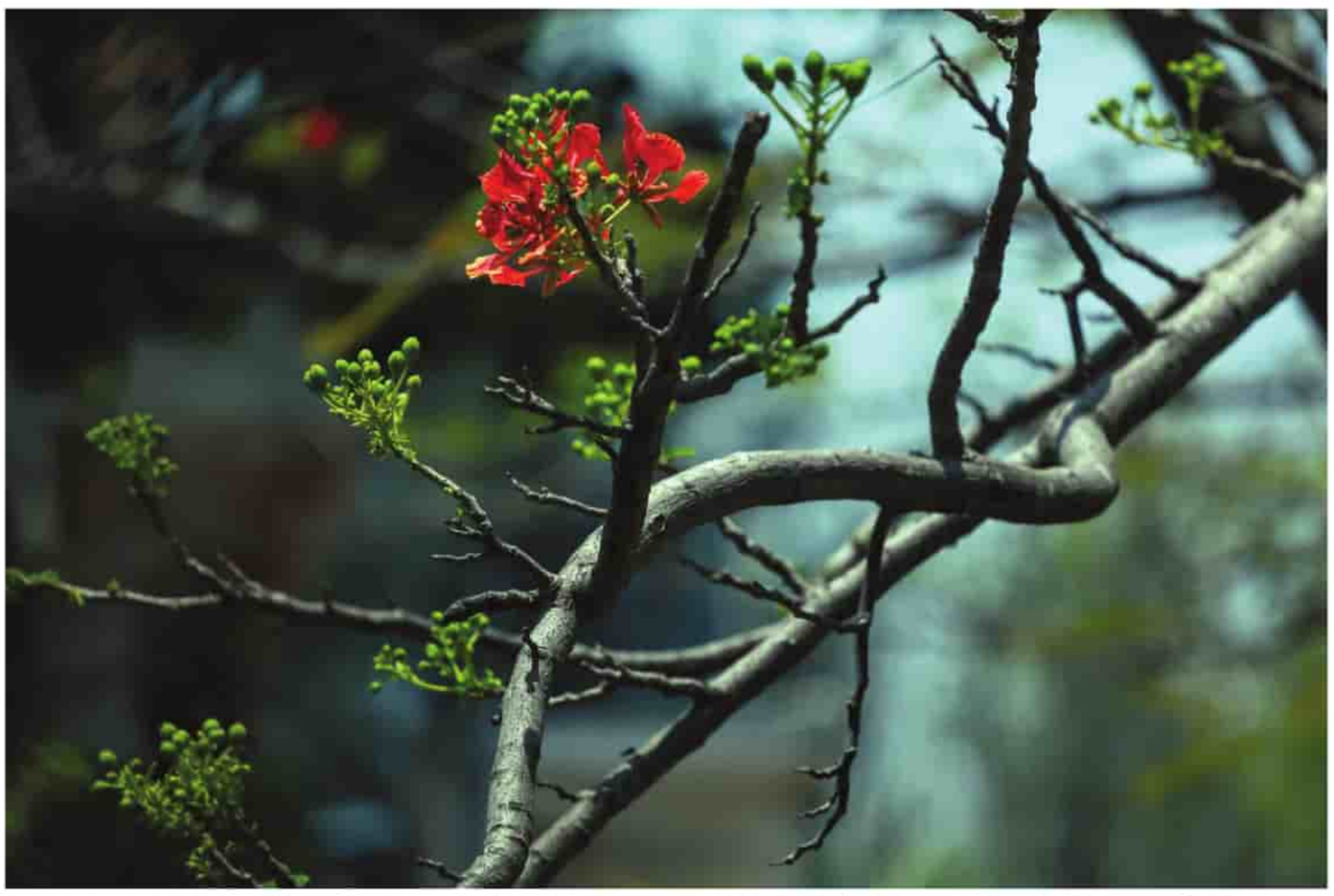
# BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

## STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

### BLOSSOM AMIDST THE BARREN

The blooming of ubiquitous May flower (Gulmohar), which when in full bloom paint the town in red



The picture was clicked by reader **K.Mohammed Ashref**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

# Darkness on Ullal Main Road sparks safety fears

## Months without streetlights leave students and residents vulnerable to crime and accidents

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Ullal Main Road near Bairegowda Layout, opposite BTS Layout in Bharath Nagar, has been plunged into darkness for months, creating serious safety concerns for hundreds of residents and students, especially young women from the East West College girls' hostel and nearby guest accommodations. Despite repeated complaints, authorities have yet to act, leaving the road dangerously unlit at night.

Students returning from evening classes or study sessions are among the worst affected. "It is incredibly scary to walk back to the hostel after my evening classes," said Priya, a second-year engineering student. "The darkness is overwhelming, and we always fear unwanted incidents."

The absence of streetlights forces students to rely on flashlights and mobile phones to navigate the stretch, a makeshift solution that hardly guarantees safety. To make matters worse, Ullal Main Road sees heavy vehicular traffic, with speeding vehicles posing an additional threat to pedestrians already struggling through the pitch-dark conditions.

Nidhi, another student, echoed these concerns. "We feel unsafe and anxious every night. The darkness attracts troublemakers. There have been instances of ragging and snatch thefts as well. We have reported these issues multiple times, but there has been no action."

Local shopkeepers and residents are equally frustrated. Mr Ramesh, who runs a shop on Ullal Main Road, said, "We have written several letters to the municipal corporation and made numerous phone calls, but nothing has been done so far. It is not just about the inconvenience; it is a matter of safety."

Several residents highlight that the lack of streetlights not only affects students but also families and daily commuters who use the road after sunset. The complete absence of lighting has turned what should be a routine walk home into a nerve-wracking experience every evening.

Riya, another student from East West College, stressed the urgency of the matter: "We need streetlights urgently. It is a basic necessity for ensuring our safety and well-being."

Despite the community's repeated efforts to escalate the issue, no visible progress has been made. Residents and students now hope that by amplifying their concerns publicly, authorities will finally respond and take immediate action to install streetlights along Ullal Main Road.

Until then, navigating the stretch remains a daily ordeal, marked by fear and anxiety for the students and residents who call the area home.

Ullal Main Road near Bairegowda Layout, opposite BTS Layout in Bharath Nagar, has remained in complete darkness for months

## DID YOU KNOW?

Scientists have created an antivenom -- "the most broadly effective to date" --using blood donated by a person who developed a 'hyper immunity' to snake venom through snake bites and self-immunisations. Over a period of nearly 18 years, the donor, Timothy Friede, exposed himself to 856 self-immunisations, including snake bites and doses of venoms of 16 lethal snake species, enough to "kill a horse", said first author Jacob Glanville, CEO of Centivax, Inc., a US-based vaccine developer. Through his unique immune history, Friede's body had created antibodies that were effective in countering a broad range of snake toxins and "could give rise to a broad-spectrum or universal antivenom", Glanville added.

A study, published in the journal Cell, found that newly developed antivenom could protect mice against the venom of black mamba, king cobra, and tiger snakes. Fascinated with reptiles and venomous creatures, Friede kept dozens of snakes at his home in Wisconsin, US. Curiosity and hope to protect himself from snake bites led him to inject himself with small doses of snake venom, slowly increasing the amounts to build a tolerance, the Associated Press reported. —Agencies

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# No, govt has not opened a new account for army modernisation

**CLAIM:** A WhatsApp message claims the Indian government has opened a new bank account to accept public donations for the modernisation of the Indian Army, citing a "Cabinet decision" and involving actor Akshay Kumar as the initiator.
**FACT:** The Ministry of Defence has debunked the claim, calling it misleading. The message is fake, and the bank account details mentioned are incorrect. Any donations made using those details would likely be dishonoured

The Ministry of Defence on Sunday cautioned that a "misleading" message is doing the rounds on WhatsApp claiming that the government has opened a bank account seeking donation for modernisation of the Indian Army.

In a statement, the ministry debunked the message and urged people to "remain cautious and not fall prey to such fraudulent messages".

"There is a misleading message doing the rounds on WhatsApp pertaining to donation to a particular bank account for the modernisation of the Indian Army and for the soldiers injured or killed in action," the statement said.

The message being circulated erroneously quotes a "Cabinet decision" to this effect and invokes the name of actor Akshay Kumar as being the "prime mover" of the proposal, the ministry flagged. "The account details in the said message are wrong, leading to online donations getting dishonoured," it said.

The ministry said the government has "initiated several welfare schemes for soldiers killed or disabled during active combat operations". "In 2020, the government instituted 'Armed Forces Battle Casualty Welfare Fund' which is utilised for grant of immediate financial assistance to the families of soldiers/sailors/airmen who lay down their lives or get grievously injured in active military operations," it said.

The Indian Army, on behalf of the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence maintains the accounts for the fund. Contribution can be made directly in the account of Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund, it added.

The PIB Fact Check also alerted people about this "misleading" message with a post on X.

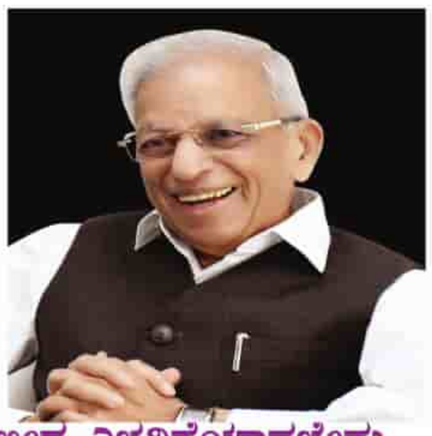
"A WhatsApp message is going around claiming that the government has opened a bank account for the modernization of the Indian Army. #PIBFactCheck This claim is MISLEADING. The bank account mentioned in the message is NOT meant for modernization of Indian Army or for purchase of weapons," it posted on X.

"Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund was created to provide immediate financial assistance to the families of soldiers who have sacrificed their lives or were injured during military operations," it added in its post and also shared a screenshot of the message with the word "misleading" stamped on it. – PTI

# ಸಂಸ್ಕಾರದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಅಖಿಲ ಭಾರತ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞ ಪಿಯು ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ದೇವೋಭವ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಧ್ಯೇಯವಾಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಶ್ರದ್ಧೆಯಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಬದ್ಧತೆಯಿಂದ ಶ್ರೀ ಚನ್ನಾರಡ್ಡಿ ಪಾಟೀಲರು ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಧರ್ಮಪತ್ನಿ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಗೀತಾ ಚನ್ನಾರಡ್ಡಿ ಪಾಟೀಲ ಇವರು ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರ ಸಹಕಾರದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ ಪಟ್ಟು ಅಖಿಲ ಭಾರತ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಮೂಹಕ್ಕೆ ನನ್ನ ಮೆಚ್ಚುಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿನಂದನೆ. ಈ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಉತ್ತಮ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ನೈತಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳು ದೇಶದ ಸಂಪತ್ತು, ಹಿರಿಯರು ದೇಶದ ಅಮೂಲ್ಯ ಆಸ್ತಿ, ಯುವಕರು ದೇಶದ ಮಹಾನ್ ಶಕ್ತಿ. ಇಂತಹ ಯುವ ಶಕ್ತಿಗೆ ಸ್ಫೂರ್ತಿ ತುಂಬಿ ಅವರ ಸರ್ವಾಂಗೀಣ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞಾವಂತ ಪ್ರಜೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ನಾಗರಿಕರನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಇದಾಗಿದೆ. ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸೇವೆ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಯವರಿಂದ ಆಗಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜನರ ಸಹಕಾರ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಸಿಗಲಿ ಎಂದು ಆಶಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ನ್ಯಾಯಮೂರ್ತಿ ಡಾ. ಶಿವರಾಜ ವಿ. ಪಾಟೀಲರು



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**READY** To Move : Opera Primus 2BHK - 80 Lacs, 3BHK - 1.20 Cr, OC received, Just 48 Flats, 50% UDS & All Amenities, 100Ft from BGT Mn Rd before Decathlon, Last 4 Units Left. Call : 97402 13520.

**FOR-SALE** Sites at Fortune Lake View&symphony shelters Jigani. Last 10 Sites available BMRDA Approved A khata. CT : ANR Groups 91642 73855.

**SALE** Vijaya Bank Layout 30x40 Site, East Facing, Very Good Location, Price: 22K Per sqft. Genuine Buyers Contact: 91106 64819 Brokers Excuse.

### DEVANAHALLI

**RESIDENTIAL** land for sale 5 Acres Ivc rd to chapparkallu main rd 60 ft rd 40 ft rd , all near by prime location fr 1 acre price: 9 Cr Neg Mob: 9945263249

**DODDABALAPURA** To Devanhalli Mn Rd Commercial DC Converted Up Todate Tax Paid E Katha Property For Sale 280x50 Rs.5500/- Psft: 9342552428

### ELECTRONIC CITY

**2-BHK-FLATS** For Sale at Srikara Urban Park. Nr Wipro Electronic City Phase 1. RERA BDA Approved last 40 flats. CT : ANR Groups 91642 73855.

**PREMIUM VILLA Plots For Sale @ ELECTRONIC CITY BMRDA/ RERA Approved Price 5499/- Per Sft**

**30 ACRES** TOWNSHIP Ready for Regn & Constrn with all amenities, 100% Released. Ltd Sites only: 8618278177/ 9035254050

### HEBBAL

**FLATS FOR SALE**

HURRY! FEW FLATS REMAINING
STARTS FROM 66 LAKHS*
2BHK & 3BHK FLATS,

**READY TO-OCCUPY** 2kms from hebbal junction, near narayana school, Balaji layout Contact: 7760804933

### HENNUR

**SALE** BDA Site 50x80 near Hennur Main Road on 60 feet Road Rs - 10,000/ sqft, slightly negotiable.Also 20x30 Rs-59 lakhs. Ph: 98454 42054

### HRBR LAYOUT

**READY-TO-OCCUPY** 3 BHK LUXURY FLATS FOR SALE @ HRBR 1 ST BLOCK WITH INTERIORS CONTACT : 97433 25550.

**HRBR** Layout 2nd Blk Service Rd 50x80 Commercial Prty N/F Rs 39,000 Nego. Kasturinagar 40x60 N/F Duplex House 4 BHK Rs 5.5 Cr Nego Mob: 90352-77775


**LONG TERM OFFICE RENTAL** 7447 Sqft FULLY Fitted Out Office with
96 Workstations || 3 Meeting Rooms
1 MD Cabin || 5 Cabins || 1 Board
|| 1 Cafeteria || 6 Car Parks
ON OLD AIRPORT ROAD
Next to HAL Museum
MSG ONLY BY WHATSAPP FOR MORE DETAILS 98450 31550


### HSR LAYOUT

**STUDIO** APARTMENT BUILDING FOR SALE, 9000 Sqft built up area, BDA CORNER PROPERTY 2110 Sqft,.Call: 98452 33902. Brokers please excuse

**A'BLE** 3 BHK House for Rent Rs 90k , in 1st Floor, 6th Main, 6th Sector, HSR Layout, for Resi/ Comm/ Bachular, Call Owner Rajesh 98451 67755

**HSR** Sale 30x40 North Facing with Bldg. Good location @ Sector-1 Rs. 4.75. Cr. Also 30x40 East Facing with Bldg. Rs.4.5 Cr. Contact: 9845004282

**PRIME** LOCATION, 50x80 NORTH FACING SITE FOR SALE in H.S.R. LAYOUT, SECTOR-3. CONTACT : 9535158011

### JALAHALLI

**Abbigere 20,000 Sqft COMMERCIAL LAND Build to Suit Available For Rent**

**COMMERCIAL LAND** Available For Rent Suitable For Ware House / Dark Store etc., Good Location. Call: 99867 71925

### JAYANAGAR

**LUXURY** Newly Built 3BHK Apartment for Sale in Jayanagar near South End Circle, 2200 to 2500 Sqft Each Flat. Ct: 9945265049/ 9738302049.

**40X60** west facing site with house for sale Jayanagar 1st Block Madhavan Park. Naveen 9611880033

### JP NAGAR

**3BHK x 2 OLD HOUSES Built on 40x60 Site North (F) BDA Lyt JP-Nagar 2nd Phase 6.50Cr. Nego**

**BBMP A** KHATA Near to Tirumalagiri Temple & Delmia Circle 6.50Cr Nego 30 Feet Road. Contact: 6364895022

**G+3 BUILTUP** area 5400 Carpet area 4600 @ JP Ngr 6th Phase, Beside Total Environment learning to fly. 9742650457, 9980277668

**SALE** 80x120 With Tenant Rental Income JPNagar 15th Cross 100feet Road Facing North & South Contact: 9611844667 / 8123515830

### KAMMANAHALLI

**READY TO** OCCUPY Luxury Flats for Sale Near Kanthi Sweets East And North Facing Rs. 1.15 Cr Ph: 9886691444/ 9620232978

### KANAKAPURA ROAD

**50x80 SITE for SALE**

**BCCHS LAYOUT** 80 feet Road, East Facing, Metro Station 1.5 Kms., BDA Approved, Clear Titles. CONTACT : 8884500660

### KENGERI

**40X60** BDA Sale KENGERI UPANAGARA, E khata, Price 15500/- Psqft, Good location Negotiable. Contact. MALNAD. 9844092859.

### KORAMANGALA

**AVAILABLE** For Rent Koramangala Fully Furnished 9950 sqft Independent Commercial Building Basement Parking, Terrace Cafeteria, Lift, DG, AC workstations M: 98450 57375

**KORAMANGALA** 1st Block Sale 20X30 West facing G+4 Floors, 2 lakhs Rental Income building 10 Years Old Rs. 3.25 Cr. 9845004282/ 8217485370

### MAHALAKSHMI-PURAM

**FLAT** for sale opposite ISCKON 2 BHK flat North facing @ Rs. 1.35 CR AND 3 BHK flat 3 toilet East facing @ Rs. 2.45 CR. PH. 7892474959

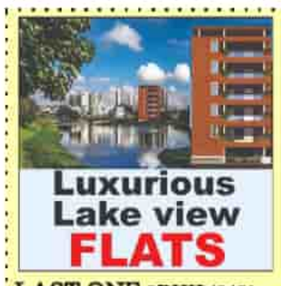
### MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

**TENANTED PROPERTIES For Sale in A Grade Buildings. With Excellent Monthly Rental Returns. Investments From 1 CR to 50 CR. Call: Emerald Realty 9 8 4 5 2 6 3 2 7 7**

### MYSORE ROAD

**SITE** for Sale BDA 30x40 E/F wide Rd Jnanabharathi Lyt Nr to Metro Stn 11,600/- Persft. Slightly Nego Genuine Buyers Call Nele Properties: 7026500097

### NAGARBHAVI




**LAST ONE** 3BHK (2450 sft) high end, All Teak & bath Fittings, East Facing BBMP A Katha Nr Deepa Complex Nagarbhavi, 1.47 Cr, 2 Carparks, Partyhall: 9448462661/ 9886436804

### OUTER RING ROAD

**GALAXY-TOWERS-FLATS** FOR SALE Rera/BBMP approved, "A khata", Exclusive 3BHK Flats, Near RMZ Ecoworld @ Bellandur. Contact : 9663467711.


THE TIMES OF INDIA

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# GALLERIA

## APOLLO PUBLIC SCHOOL

Hegganahalli Cross, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore- 5600091

**SSLC TOPPERS 2024-2025**

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SAHAKARANAGARA HOUSE BUILDING
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.,
PLOT FOR SALE
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SIRINAGARA
NEAR YELAHANKA
5 Easy Installments Scheme Available, Once every 6 months
BOOKING OPEN FOR GENERAL PUBLIC
₹1490/- PER SQFT.,
20'X30' | 30'X50' | 40'X60' | 30'X40' | 50'X80'
"Today's INVESTMENT will Transform into Tomorrow's FAMILY Legacy...!"
LOCATION MAP
8095432145, 9513111446
Project Office : #1609, 60 Feet Road, 'B' Block, Sahakaranagara, Bangalore - 560092

## RAJAJI NAGAR

**FOR SALE**
**48x85**
East Facing Near Navarang Talkies
**&62x64**
North West Facing

**OPP-SJR-PUBLIC** School suitable For commercial Use, on Dr.Rajkumar road, Contact : 9986864000

**PRESTIGE** -WEST WOOD Rajajinagar Near LULU Mall 4 Bedroom with all attached washrooms 3981 sqft Exclusive FLAT for SALE with 7 Star Exclusive Amenities on Heigher Floor 100% Vastu with Dry/ wet Seperate kitchen / Big utility/Powder room /Servant room/laundry room, Big Balcony Excellent View & 2 car parking. Contact OWNER : 9844027560

**SOBHA** INDRAPRASTHA Rajajinagar near LULU Mall 4 Bedroom with Servant room 3301 sqft premium FLAT on 33rd Higher Floor for SALE with 7 STAR Exclusive Amenities.100% Vastu Excellent view & 2 CAR Parking. Contact OWNER : 9844027560

## RMV EXTENSION

**WEST** facing 1200sqft 3 BHK fully furnished apt for sale at MLA Layout, RMV 2nd stage, Bangalore-94 Contact: 7411017076

## RT NAGAR

**2-BHK FLAT FOR SALE**

**SULTANPALYA** Siroya Apartment 1200 Sft, 5th Floor, above D-Mart. Call: 9480043779, Whatsapp +971 52 4972471

**COMMERCIAL** Site For Sale, 40x60, East facing 30ft rd E Khata, suitable for any pur pose mm layout, RT ngr. 2km from manayta tech. 9742282278

## SESHADRIPURAM

**PREMIUM PLUG/PLAY OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT**
12,500 sqft,170 W/S, 10 Exec Off, A/C, Gen, Fire Safety Reception & Cafe 8 Cars & 25 Bike P

9880088442/9845001166
# 24, Nehru Nagar, Next to Seshadripuram Main College, 10 min walk from Mantri Mall Metro.

## SARJAPUR ROAD

**WANTED** commercial sites in Sarjapur Rd,Varthur to Gunjur Rd, Kanakapura Rd between 10,000 sft & 30,000 sft for immed purchase. Ph:9538254365

## VIDYARANYAPURA

**WEST** facing A-khata 60x40 site for sale at Vidyaranyapur Bangalore. Genuine party Call:7411017076

## VIJAYA NAGAR

**REQUIRED**
**1350-1800**
square feet
**SITES**

**IN-& AROUND** VIJAYANAGAR and BASAVESHWARNAGAR. Genuine Sellers Please Contact : 98454 08390.

## VISVESWARAIAH LAYOUT

**FOR SALE**
**50X80**
EAST FACING
BDA ALLOTMENT SITE

**VISVESVARAIAH** Layout 4th Block close to Park and Lake.Asking Price: Rs. 8500/ - sft Negotiable. 99868-64000

**DC** Converted BBMP E-Katha Sites Available for Sale in Visveswaraiah Lyt East & West Facing Measuring 3500 Sqft to 9000 Sqft 6366242222/ 6366232222

## WHITEFIELD

**AVAILABLE** FOR SALE 6050 Sqft Site in Prestigious Residential Layout Prestige Whistling Palms in Whitefield. Contact: 9845057375

## YELAHANKA

**SALE** : Door no#786 New town, A sector 2800 sq ft, GF 3BHK, FF 4 BHK/ Car Garage, 4.5 Cr, Call 9901513755 / 8073616380

## PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

## INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

Industrial land with infrastructure for Sale @ Harohalli Phase 2 50 ft. Road - 74208 sqft. KIADB alloted land. 23000 sqft. Indl. shed 13000 sqft office with lift 2 bore well 450 KW Power.

**EXPECTED PRICE** 18 Cr. slightly negotiable. Contact: 9880908575, 9663394104. E-Mail: nitishrshetty@gmail.com

## LEASE & RENT

**GRADE A OFFICE SPACE**
FULLY FURNISHED
**FOR RENT**

**390 SEATER** Standalone commercial building of 33,000 sqft in JP Nagar with high visibility. infinite SPAACE 9980040475

**OFFICE SPACE for RENT @ Jakkur**

**256 SQFT.** Near Airport Road / Habbal / Manyatha Teck Park. Prime Location. Contact : 9986156464

**FOR RENT**
100X100
EAST & NORTH FACING
CORNER SITE
60,000/- PM(Nego.)

**JNANA JYOTHI** Nagar Ramasandra Village, Kengeri, Bangalore South-560056. Contact: 9449931753 9342859436

## PROPERTY WANTED

**LOOKING** for lands in and around Bangalore East or North for outrate purchase. Call 8884004114/ 9886700089. Brokers Excuse

## COMMERCIAL PREMISES

**ULSOOR-LAKE** FACING OFFICE, 2nd FLR, 25 W/S, 1 Cabin, 1 Pantry, Generator, Lift, Parking available, Call @ 9742224224.

**PRIME** PROPERTY 6,230 Sqft at Tower B1, GOLDEN ENCLAVE, 3rd Floor, HAL Old Airport Road, with 3 Car parks, fitted with latest office furniture ready to plug and work. JAGANNATH 9886006789

## FOR SALE

## BANGALORE

VENUS Real Estate

**WANTED LAND** URGENTLY IN BANGALORE For Top Developers. Best Price. Only Owners Please Call Mr. John Gonsalves 9821144123 www.venusrealestate.in

**SNN** Clermont – Sale Bareshell 4BHK (High Floor) @ 17.5K/sft, 3880 sft (S/F) Sky Villa 5260 sft - fully furnished @10.5Cr Homiez Realty 6366777717, 6364227916

## MYSORE

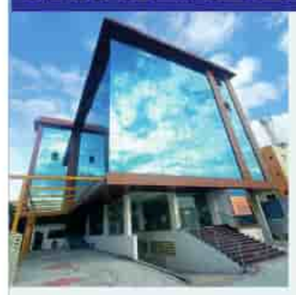
**SALE** MUDA approved sites ready for registration Rs.3700/-. Well developed lyt, Bandipalya Village, Mysore. Brokers Excuse, Buyers Call: 7619606688

## business

## FOR SALE

**BUSINESS-** FOR - SALE Profitable running Automobile spare parts shop dealing in multibrand products in Bengaluru. Cont: 9448039076.

**COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE FOR RENT**



Newly built **Commercial Complex** with around **48000 Sft** spread over 5 floors with 2 lifts and parking facilities prominently located near **Magadi Road – NICE Road Toll Junction,** Bengaluru available for Rent with 65KW Power Supply that can be extended to 200KW.

**Suitable for Hospitals, Diagnostic Centres, Shopping Malls, Educational Institutions, Offices, and Pharmaceuticals / Electronics / Garments Manufacturing units.**

**Contact:**
**8494835002 / 7358477799**


# GALLERIA

## APOLLO AKSHARADHAMA

SANJEEVININAGARA, HEGGANAHALLI CROSS, BANGALORE - 91

### SSLC TOPPERS 2024-2025

## APOLLO PUBLIC SCHOOL

### SSLC TOPPERS 2024-2025

# jobs

## SITUATION VACANT

## ACADEMIC

## GENERAL

**St. Claret College Autonomous,**
*Jalahalli Post,*
*Bengaluru- 560013.*

**Required**

***Experienced Placement Officer Fulltime Faculty with Ph.D/NET & Experience***

**For**

- *PG:* ***Computer Science (MCA)***
- *UG:* ***Computer Science (BCA)***
- *PG:* ***Counselling Psychology (M.Sc.)***
- *UG:* ***Management (BBA)***
- *UG:* ***Commerce-Business Analytics (B.Com.)***
- ***Statistics (B.Sc.)***
- ***Data Science/ Analytics (BCA & B.Sc.)***
- ***Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (BCA & B.Sc.)***

*Contact:*
***080-23454755***
*Mob:* ***9620912639***
*Send your resumes to:*
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**www.claretcollege.edu.in**

## TEACHER

**SRI KK EDUCATION CENTRE**
(Affiliated to CBSE, Aff. No. 830256)
Kadabagere, Bangalore
**STAFF REQUIRED**
**KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS**
Degree / Diploma in Early Childhood care education / NTT.
**PRIMARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL**
English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Computer Science, Hindi
**HIGH SCHOOL**
English, Mathematics, Social Science & Computer Science
**Remuneration will not be a constraint for experienced & competent candidates.**
**Call: 9886535292**
**Write us: srikkec@gmail.com**

**New Presidency High School**
#7, TD Lane, Cottonpet, Bangalore-560053
WE ARE HIRING
Contact: 9448041432 / 7483077242
Email: newpresidencyhighschool@gmail.com

**REQ EXPERIENCED** Teachers, Proficient in English with B.Ed for High School Maths, Science, Primary Hindi & PE teachers, Good salary for deserving candidates. Contact: 9448041432

**WANTED** Teachers, MA/ BA B.Ed (Eng), M.Sc / B.Sc B.Ed., (Phy & Che) Salary 20000/- to 30000/- Contact Sidhartha International School, Near Nagasandra Metro Station. Peenya, Dasarahalli. Ph: 74110 10046, 96201 00046

**WANTED-TEACHERS-@** DPH High School, All Subjects 0-5years Exp. Near Victoria Layout : 560047 CT : 98452 58113 Email- hr@dphhighschool.in

**REQUIRED** female teachers for a preschool in JP nagar 7th phase Bengaluru . Contact number 9611235009, 9663590077

## ADMINISTRATION

## MANAGERS

**WANTED** General Manager and Branch manager also MBA Person with Real estate exp age above 30yrs earn 100000/-and above per month Kannada, English, Hindi speaking knowledge call:9740663816

## MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

## SALES

**WANTED** Sales Executive, Female Candidate, UPSC Experience Preferred, Min 2 Yrs Experience, English & Kannada Must. Location: Jayanagar (Blr), Email- hr.legacyias@gmail.com , Mob: 9606913413

## SERVICES

## HOTEL INDUSTRY

**HOUSEKEEPING** Boys for Hotels/Serviced Apartment in Bangalore. WhatsApp only 78996 12345

## MAID SERVANTS

**WANTED:** Reliable All-Rounder Maid Location: RMV/ Sanjay Nagar Salary: 12,000 Cont: 9560636121 Cleaning, cooking & household tasks.

## SITUATION VACANT

✔ **ACCOUNTANT,** Male Full/ Part Time for Manufacturing Company at Peenya, knowing Computer, Tally. Contact 9880593093

# personal

## CHANGE OF NAME

**I,** Chetan Channaveerappa S/o Channaveerappa Chandrashekarappa aged about 33 Years R/At L2, A Block, BSR Splendor Park apartment,1st Main, B Cross Road, Vijaya Bank Colony, B'luru-560043 have changed my name to Chethan Channaveerappa vide affidavit dtd:03/05/2025 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K,B'luru.

**I,** SHIVANI residing at #41 Balaji Nivas, Gurudarshan Layout, Near Nanjappa Circle, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097. I have changed my name to SHIVANI SHARMA. Vide affidavit dated 03/05/2025 sworn before notary. Kodi Nagappaya Bengaluru.

**I,** Srikant Kumar Sahoo R/o Flat No. 302, Sri Sai Ram Nivas, 2nd Main Road, Tulasi Theater Road, Marathahalli, b'lore-560037 have changed my minor son's name from Aditya Sahoo to Aditya Kumar Sahoo.

**I,** K N Balaraj @ K N Balraj, S/o. Narasimhaiah Kunigal Rangappa, R/at No.42, 1st Main 1st Cross, Srinidhi layout, Hero halli, Handrahalli, Bengaluru-560091, have changed my name to Balaraj Kunigal Narasim haiah, vide affidavit dt: 02.05. 2025, Notary Renuka C, B.lore.

**I,ABDUL** Rahman A S/o Abdul Kareem # 7 Taskertown blr'51 have changed my name to Abdul Rehman A bdul kareem for all purposes.

**I,** Mehira Govil, D/o Manoj Kumar Govil, R/o No-404 V2 Poorvi Enclave 4th Cross 4th main arehalli subramanyapura B'lore- 560061 have changed my name to Mihira Manojkumar Govil for all Purposes.

**I,** Sayeda Asmathunnisa D/O, Syed Mustafa R/o No 120 Sri Datta Township Kattigenahalli Yelahanka Bangalore 560063 have changed my name to Syeda Asmathunnisa for all purposes.

**I,** Lokesha , #42 3rd cross Lakeshore garden thindlu banglore 560097 have changed my daughter's name (minor) from Advika Aparna Vishnu to Advika Nayana Gowda

**GALLERIA**

**IMPACT POLYTECHNIC**
**(Government Aided)**
Kodigehalli, Sahakaranagar South, Bengaluru-560092
**DIPLOMA ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR 2025-26**
**SEATS ALLOTTED ON FIRST COME FIRST BASIS**
Admissions started for Karnataka students for 1st Semester under Government Quota
**COURSES:**
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**Eligibility:** Minimum 35% marks in SSLC or equivalent exam
Candidates who have passed ITI and PUC in Science are eligible for Direct admission to 3rd Semester.
FORMS AVAILABLE AT COLLEGE OFFICE
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Email: impactpolytechnic@gmail.com
IMP-25601
For admissions & details contact:
080-23334101, 94487 48297, 94487 96091

# HOLY ANGEL'S HIGH SCHOOL

## TOPPERS OF SSLC EXAMINATION - 2025

# HOLY ANGEL'S HIGH SCHOOL

Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 104

## TOPPERS OF SSLC EXAMINATION - 2025

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"Threads of Tradition"
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**Pure Silk & Cotton Handloom**

*My Handloom...My Pride..*

HANDLOOM fab's
VOCAL *for* LOCAL
*Exhibition Starts from* **2nd May 2025**
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Opp. Aurum Brew Works,
SARJAPUR ROAD DODDAKANNHALI,
BENGALURU-560035
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| Handloom Fabrics
| Gorgeous Fabulous Cotton
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Suit, Stolls, Kurta, Silk Cotton Saree, Dress Material, Duppatta Carpet, Fashion Jewellery, Home Decor, Tunics & Many More
Exclusive Collection for **Wedding & Festive Occasions**
UPTO 20% OFF
EXHIBITION CUM SALE
Time : 10:30 am to 9:30 pm
• All Debit / Credit Cards Accepted.
FREE ENTRY & PARKING
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**HEALTH TIP:** Spinach, kale, and other leafy greens are loaded with fibre and phytonutrients that cleanse the digestive system

Lentils are rich in iron and fibre, making them a great energy-sustaining food



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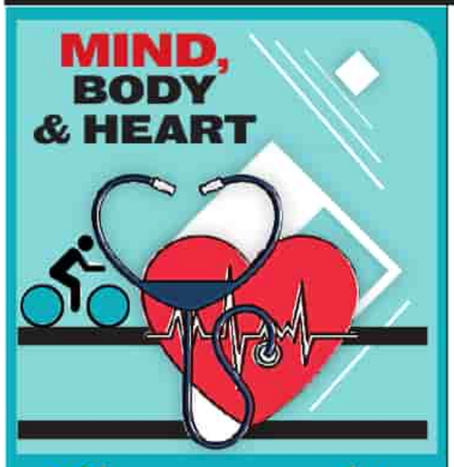



## All you need to know about...

*Heart health*

**Unhealthy lifestyles**
Unhealthy lifestyles are dramatically accelerating the ageing of the heart, contributing to a global rise in several cardiovascular diseases, finds a study, led by Indian-origin researchers in the UK.

**True age of heart**
Using a new Cardiac magnetic resonance (CMR) imaging technique, also known as cardiovascular MRI scan, researchers from the University of East Anglia (UEA) uncovered the "true age" of a heart. The MRI scan revealed how unhealthy lifestyles can dramatically accelerate the heart's functional age.

**Ageing faster**
While among healthy people, the heart's age was found to be similar to the chronological age, for patients with diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and atrial fibrillation, the functional heart age was significantly higher.
"For example, a 50-year-old with high blood pressure might have a heart that works like it's 55," said lead researcher Dr Pankaj Garg, from UEA's Norwich Medical School and a consultant cardiologist at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital.
"People with health issues like diabetes or obesity often have hearts that are ageing faster than they should – sometimes by decades. So, this could help doctors step in early to stop heart disease in its tracks," he added.

**Help with diagnosis**
The findings could transform how heart disease is diagnosed -- offering a lifeline to millions by catching problems before they become deadly, said the researchers who called their cutting-edge technique a "game changer for keeping hearts healthier, longer". "It could also be the wake-up call that people need to take better care of themselves – whether that's eating healthier, exercising more, or following their doctor's advice. It's about giving people a fighting chance against heart disease," Garg said. —IANS

# GO MANGO!

It is that time of the season — use the king of fruits to create food euphoria

## MANGO KOFTA CURRY

**INGREDIENTS**
- 2 Mango
- 20 khoya
- 50 Gram Vegetable Oil
- 50 ML Ghee
- For The Gravy
- 250 Gram Cashew Nut Paste
- 2 Grams Cumin Powder
- 2 Gram Fennel Powder
- 5 Grams Whole Garam Masala
- 100 Gram Boiled Onion Paste
- Salt To Taste

**METHOD**
- Peel mangoes and cut into very small pieces. Keep chilled.
- When it firms up, make into roundels with a hollow in the center.
- Mix a little cumin powder and saunf powder with the mangoes and use as stuffing for the kofta. Make the koftas a little oblong in shape.
- Heat oil and deep fry the koftas.
- Use the fried kofta oil and add the whole garam masala and the other masalas.
- Later, add the boiled onion paste and saute.
- After some time, when the onion paste gets cooked without colouring, add the cashew paste and salt and sauté for some more time.
- Cut the koftas into two (length wise) and add to the gravy delicately. Serve hot.
- Garnish with thin strips of mango on top.

**Recipe by: Chef Ramesh, DCDP, Clarks Exotica Convention Resort and Spa**

## MANGO MANAMA

**INGREDIENTS**
- Mango Pulp 30 Ml
- Mango Crush 100 Gm
- Whip Topping Cream 75 Gm
- Mascarpone Cheese 50 Gm
- Agar Agar 5 Gm
- Dark Chocolate Compound 80 Gm
- Sugar 10 Gm
- Fresh Mango 1 No
- Mint Leaves For Garnish

**METHOD**
- Melt chocolate and prepare the shell
- Mix whip cream with mascarpone cheese and mango pulp
- Soak agar agar in warm water for 5 min. and then mix with the cream mixture
- Fill the mixture into the chocolate shell
- Cut the fresh mango into dices and arrange on top of shell
- Garnish with mint leaves

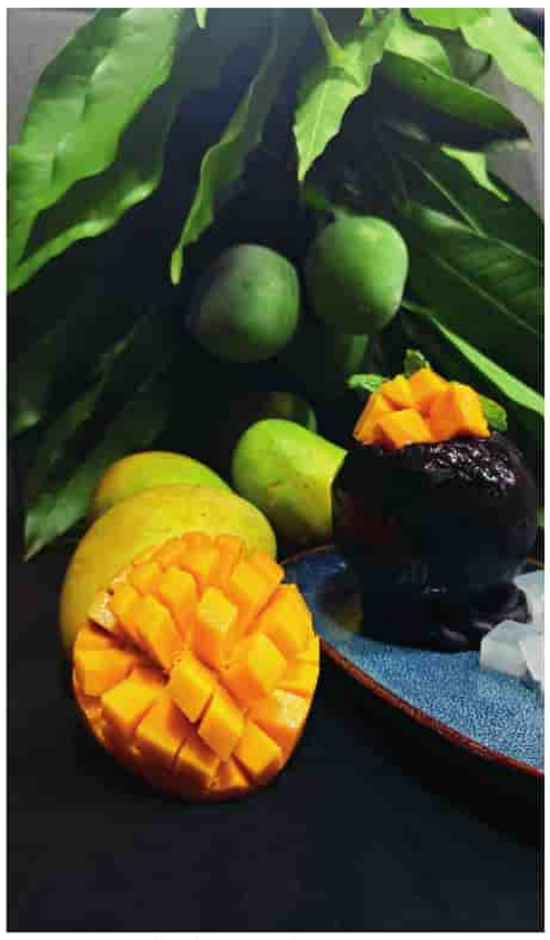
**Chef Name: Chef Sanjib Chitrakar, Pastry chef, Clarks Exotica Convention Resort and Spa**

## CHOCOLATE MANGO CHEESECAKE PARFAIT

This chocolate mango cheesecake parfait recipe is perfect for summer. A combination of Oreo cookies, fresh mango slices, chocolate and mango cheesecake layers! So easy and tasty!

**INGREDIENTS**
- 1 Fresh Mango (about 1 pound/440 grams)
- ½ cup Whipping Cream (125 ml)
- ½ cup powdered sugar (55 grams)
- 12 ounces Cream Cheese (340 grams)
- 3 tablespoons Lemon Juice
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 packet Oreo Cookies

**METHOD**
- Cut the mango and remove its pit. Scoop the flesh from one half out. Puree this in a food processor and set aside. Take the other half of the mango and cut into slices/cubes or anything really (I prefer thin slices though).
- In a mixing bowl, whip the cream until soft peaks form. Add the cream cheese and powdered sugar and mix until well combined. Divide this mixture equally into 2 bowls. Add pureed mango and lemon juice in one and cocoa powder in the second one. Mix both until well combined.
- Assemble the parfaits any way you like. I started with a whole Oreo cookie, followed by a mango cheesecake layer, fresh mango slices and chocolate cheesecake layer. Then I repeated until the glasses were full.



- Garnish with some Oreo crumbs or mango slices.
- Chill in the fridge for at least 1 hour before serving.

**Recipe by: Hemant Kumar- Executive Chef, 2Moons**

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
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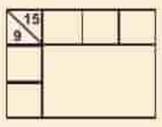
## SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

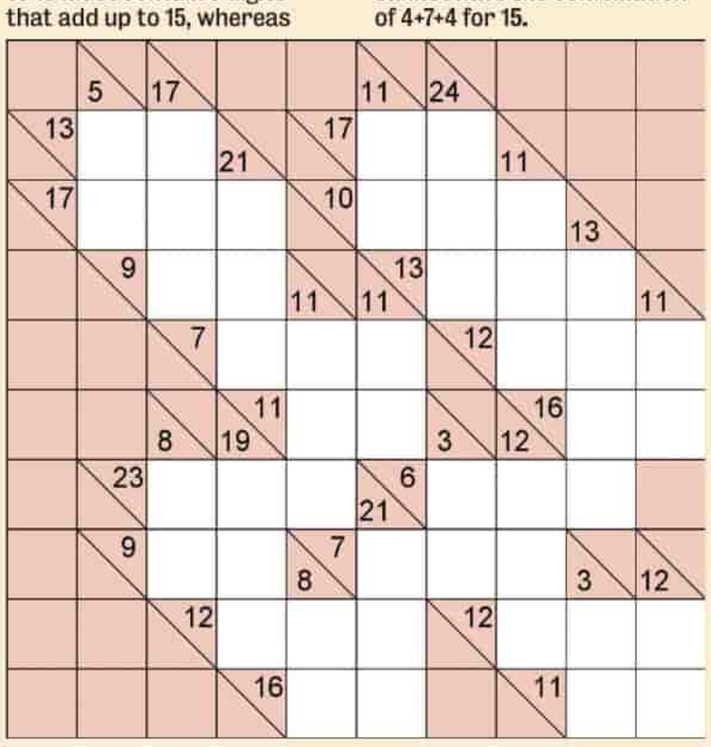
(8+(-6)) x (-10)÷4-9^2 = ?

## Kakuro

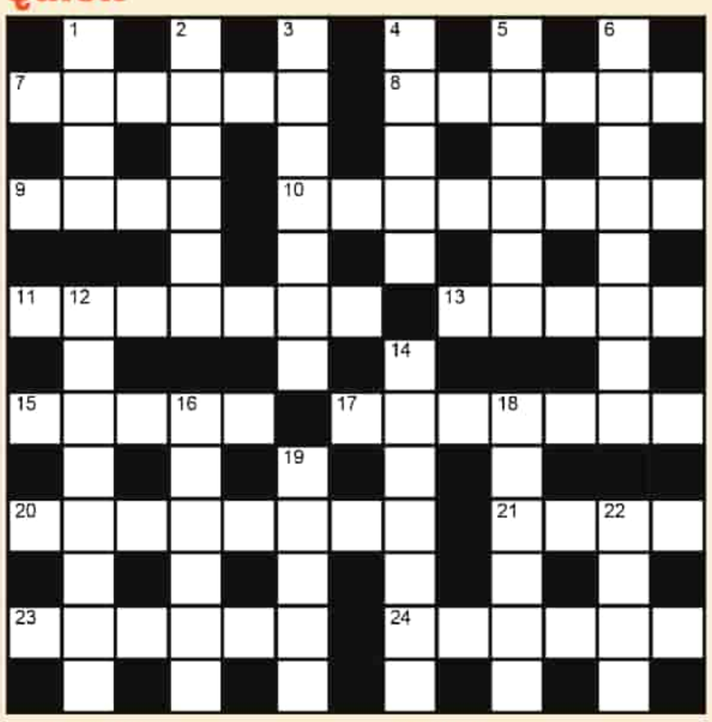
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

7 Paris tourist attraction (6)
8 Area or locality? (6)
9 42 in Rome (4)
10 Capital of Virginia, USA (8)
11 Casual wear items (1-6)
13 Landing-pier (5)
15 Wards off or repels (5)
17 Cargo (7)
20 Dr ___ Prasad : First President of India (8)
21 Flute-like instrument used in military bands (4)
23 Becomes interested or aroused, in a way? (4,2)
24 Make incomprehensible (6)

**DOWN**

1 Counting of voters or results of an election (4)
2 Fourth President of India (1,1,4)
3 Rues (7)
4 The betel-nut genus of palms (5)
5 Tourist destination where R K Narayanan's Malgudi Days was filmed (6)
6 First rate, colloquially speaking? (3-5)
12 Dramatic outline (8)
14 Put in order (7)
16 Stylishly clothed? (6)
18 Tell against (6)
19 Expert or proficient (5)
22 People in general (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: I EQUALS T**

JYWP YW IPZ HCRG JHHU IPTI YW QHCWYUZAZU WLHYRZU HCQZ YI WXZRRW RYBZ OPTI YI YW.

**Linemaro**

Hi, I'm new in town. Which way to your house?

**Mindchow**

Let me enjoy the earth no less because the all-enacting light that fashioned forth its loveliness had other aims than my delight

**Joke of the day**

What men learn from history is that men do not learn from history

## Loop

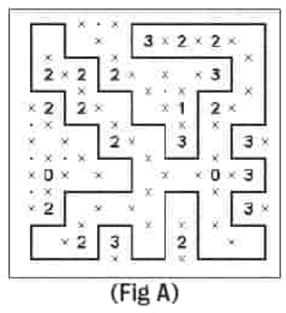
### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

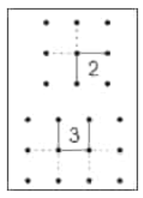
### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

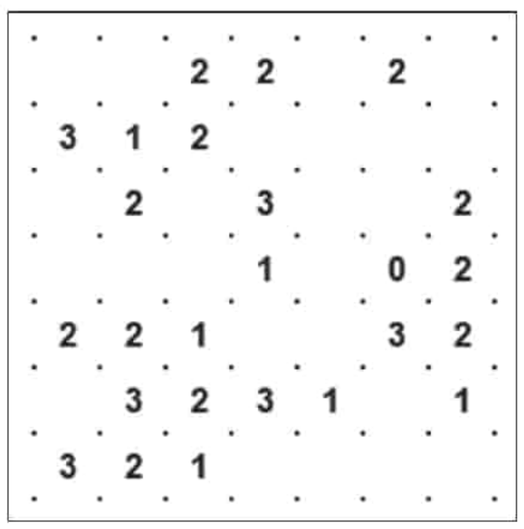
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



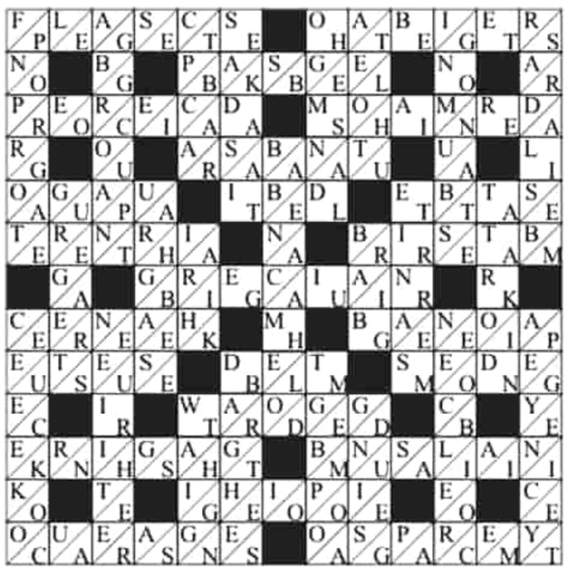
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



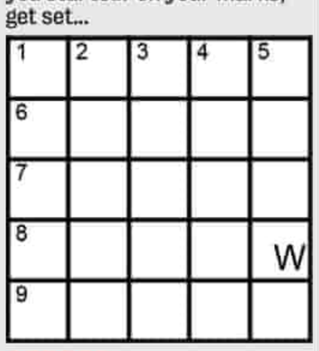
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

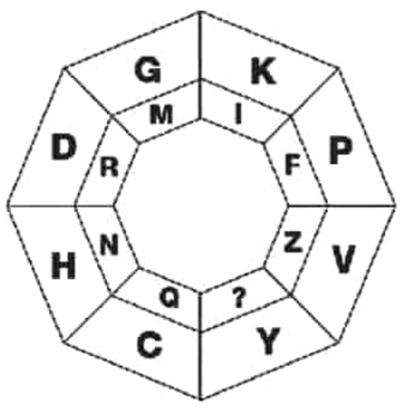
1 Fat SS; 6 Tuple; 7 Cue at; 8 Swine; 9 Shake

**DOWN**

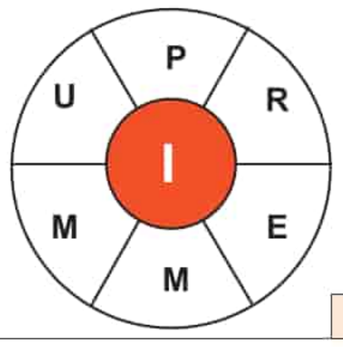
1 Has FI; 2 Ace I a; 3 K nuts; 4 Et tue; 5 We SPS

## Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

**08** Average; **09** Good; **11** Outstanding

## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | | 3 | | 9 | | 7 | |
| | | | 2 | 6 | 7 | | | |
| | | 9 | 8 | | 1 | 2 | | |
| | 3 | 6 | | | | 5 | 4 | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | 3 |
| | 2 | 5 | | | | 1 | 9 | |
| | | 7 | 5 | | 8 | 3 | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | |
| | 4 | | 6 | | 3 | | 8 | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

**Easy**

[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 6

3 3 3 9

**Medium**

[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 13

6 7 7 7

**Hard**

[ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] = 51

3 4 6 7

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

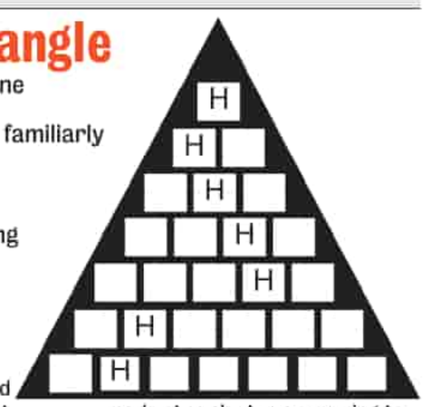
**Differences:** 1. Light is smaller. 2. Pharmacist has more hair. 3. Man is standing up straighter. 4. Pharmacist is thinner. 5. Finger is moved. 6. Mouth is different.

## Riddler

You may praise your good fortune and curse all you hate, Yet I rule all your chaos and gamble your fate. By some I'm avoided by others I'm game, Called by fat or slim, my meaning's the same.

## Alpha triangle

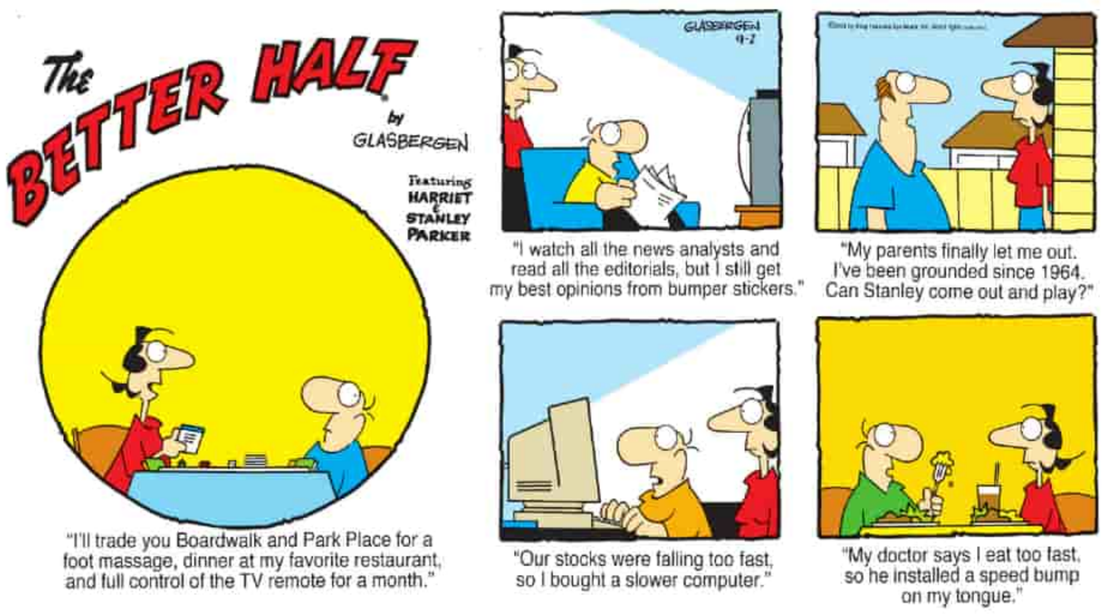
1 Atomic number One
2 Pronoun
3 Ernesto Guevara familiarly
4 Aspirin target
5 Hoard
6 Monopoly card
7 Space surrounding an altar



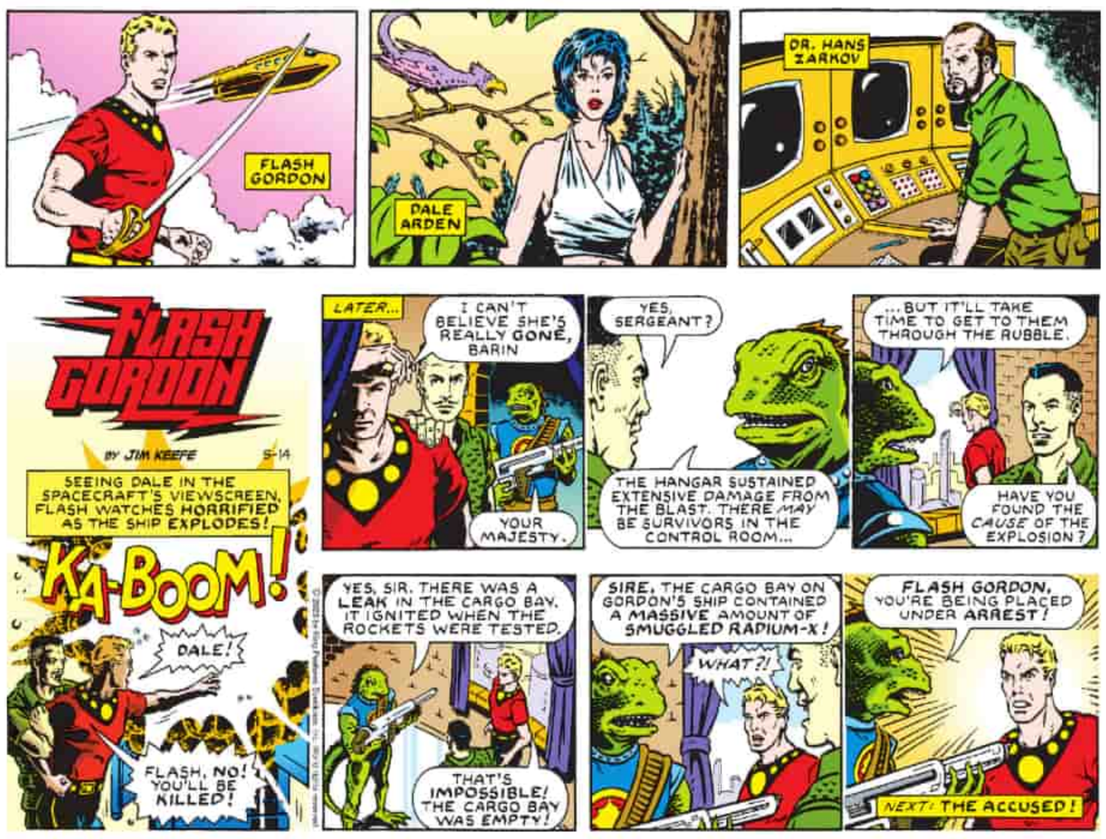

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

## COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
"I'll trade you Boardwalk and Park Place for a foot massage, dinner at my favorite restaurant, and full control of the TV remote for a month."
"I watch all the news analysts and read all the editorials, but I still get my best opinions from bumper stickers."
"My parents finally let me out. I've been grounded since 1964. Can Stanley come out and play?"
"Our stocks were falling too fast, so I bought a slower computer."
"My doctor says I eat too fast, so he installed a speed bump on my tongue."

BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
HAVE YOU SEEN HAMMIE?
HE WENT GROCERY SHOPPING WITH MOM.
THEY'RE SHOPPING FOR THANKSGIVING. SO SHE NEEDED HIS HELP.
DAIRY
THERE'S TRAFFIC TO OUR LEFT...
...EASE RIGHT...
...THAT'S IT...
...WATCH OUT FOR THE STUFFING DISPLAY...


FLASH GORDON
BY JIM KEEFE
SEEING DALE IN THE SPACECRAFT'S VIEWSCREEN, FLASH WATCHES HORRIFIED AS THE SHIP EXPLODES!
KA-BOOM!
DALE!
FLASH, NO! YOU'LL BE KILLED!
LATER...
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S REALLY GONE, BARIN
YOUR MAJESTY.
YES, SERGEANT?
THE HANGAR SUSTAINED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE FROM THE BLAST. THERE MAY BE SURVIVORS IN THE CONTROL ROOM...
...BUT IT'LL TAKE TIME TO GET TO THEM THROUGH THE RUBBLE.
HAVE YOU FOUND THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION?
YES, SIR. THERE WAS A LEAK IN THE CARGO BAY. IT IGNITED WHEN THE ROCKETS WERE TESTED.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE CARGO BAY WAS EMPTY!
SIRE, THE CARGO BAY ON GORDON'S SHIP CONTAINED A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF SMUGGLED RADIUM-X!
WHAT?!
FLASH GORDON, YOU'RE BEING PLACED UNDER ARREST!
NEXT: THE ACCUSED!

## WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
This day may bring mixed emotions. Avoid setting high expectations for others, as this could lead to disappointment. Instead, use this time for self-reflection and personal growth. Introspection may bring clarity and strengthen your mindset for future challenges.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Restlessness and dissatisfaction may affect your mood today. Impatience could impact your work and lead to careless mistakes. To regain balance, consider practicing yoga or meditation. A visit to a spiritual or religious place may bring the inner peace you seek.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
You'll feel energetic and productive today. Tasks that once felt overwhelming will seem manageable. Conflicts with siblings may finally be resolved, bringing harmony to your family. Your determination and focus could lead to significant progress at work.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
The Moon's influence brings favorable developments, including gains from inherited property or family assets. A patient and composed attitude enhances your work efficiency. Your politeness and clear communication may open new doors professionally.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
The Moon's blessings grant you patience and emotional peace. Although work stress may arise, your calm demeanor helps maintain stability. Both personal and professional life will bring joy. New income sources could also emerge, boosting financial security.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may feel emotionally and physically drained today. Sleeplessness could cause irritability and lead to poor decision-making at home or work. Be especially cautious with financial transactions, as misjudgments may turn potential gains into losses.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
High energy and positive momentum will carry you forward today. Past losses may reverse, offering fresh gains in your business. Team support empowers you to make bold decisions. Your efficiency may catch your boss's attention, potentially leading to rewards or incentives.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Destiny favors you today. It's a great day for productivity, and your ideas may be well-received at work. Maintaining discipline and ethical practices in business will bring long-term peace and professional strength.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Challenges begin to fade today. You'll work with greater patience and improved concentration. Lovebirds may plan a memorable outing. Students will stay focused on their academic goals, and singles could discover romantic interest within their social circle.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Emotional instability may affect your day. Mood swings can disturb harmony at home, while arrogance at work may attract criticism or create hidden enemies. Avoid rash driving and steer clear of risky activities.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Expect a joyful and harmonious day. Romantic moments with your spouse and support from family in professional matters are likely. New ventures or business partnerships may be proposed—evaluate them carefully before committing.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
A calming influence from the Moon brings happiness and emotional balance. Your patience will pay off at work, and you may be recognized for your performance. Family health concerns are likely to improve. Job seekers may receive good news, and lovebirds can enjoy a pleasant date.

## KIDZONE



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Ayisha, Bengaluru

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## SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
= (8-6) x -10 / 4-81
= (2) x -10 / 4-81
= -20 / 4-81
= -5-81= -86

**BULL'S EYE**
emir, immure, impure, mime, mire, pier, PREMIUM, prim, prime, ripe, umpire

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O | A | R | A | G | E | | O | S | P | R | E | Y |
| K | N | I | G | H | T | M | U | S | L | I | N |
| C | | W | A | D | E | D | | B | | E | |
| U | S | E | S | | B | E | T | | S | O | N | G |
| C | R | E | K | | H | | G | E | N | O | A |
| | A | | G | R | E | C | I | A | N | | R | |
| T | E | T | R | A | | A | | B | R | E | A | M |
| O | G | P | U | | T | E | L | | E | T | A | S |
| G | | U | R | A | B | A | T | | A | | I | |
| R | E | R | E | A | D | | M | O | A | N | E | D |
| O | | B | | B | A | B | E | L | | N | | A |
| F | E | A | S | T | S | | H | A | B | I | T | S |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | P | | V | | R | | A | | A | | T | | |
| | L | | O | | V | | R | | E | | G | | I | O | N |
| X | | L | | I | | I | | R | | I | C | | H | | M | O | N | D |
| | T | | S | | I | | T | | S | | U | | E | | | | | |
| T | | S | | H | | I | | R | | T | | S | | J | | E | | T | | T | Y |
| | C | | | | | | S | | | | A | | | | | | | | | | |
| F | | E | | N | | D | | S | | F | | R | | E | | I | | G | | H | | T |
| | N | | | | R | | | | A | | | | R | | | | | | | | | |
| R | | A | | J | | E | | N | | D | | R | | O | | R | | A | | | | |
| | R | | | | S | | | | E | | | | N | | | | | | | | | |
| S | | I | | T | | S | | U | | P | | | | G | | A | | R | | B | | L | E |
| | O | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| K | | | M | | E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
U. Start with the D on the outer left of the diagram, and move clockwise around the outer segments, then start on the N anticlockwise around the inner segments. Letters advance through the alphabet in steps of 3, then 4, 5, and 6, repeating this sequence.

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 2 |
| 3 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 8 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 7 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 |
| 4 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 |

**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
H, He, Che, Ache, Cache, Chance, Chancel.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
3 - 3 - 3 + 9 = 6
Medium
7 + 7 - 7 + 6 = 13
Hard
4 + 7 + 6 x 3 = 51

**RIDDLER**
Chance

**QUOTE UNCODE**
Fish is the only food that is considered spoiled once it smells like what it is.

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | T | S | E | A |
| P | U | T | L | E |
| E | W | N | I | S |
| T | E | U | C | A |
| S | E | K | A | H |

**LOOP**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | × | 2 | × | 1 | × | | × | | × | | × | | × | |
| × | | × | | × | | 2 | | 3 | | 1 | | × | | 1 |
| | 3 | | 2 | | 2 | | 3 | | 1 | | 3 | | 2 | |
| × | | × | | 2 | | × | | 1 | | × | | 3 | | 2 |
| | 2 | | 2 | | 1 | | × | | 1 | | 3 | | 2 | |
| × | | × | | × | | 1 | | × | | 0 | | 2 | | |
| | 3 | | × | | 1 | | × | | × | | × | | × | |
| × | | 2 | | × | | 2 | | × | | × | | × | | |
| | 2 | | × | | 2 | | × | | × | | × | | × | |
| 3 | × | 1 | | 2 | × | | × | | × | | × | | × | |
| × | | × | | × | | × | | × | | × | | × | | |

**KAKURO**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 16 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 7 | 9 | | | | | | | | | 11 | 2 | 9 |
| | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 9 | 8 | 1 | 3 | | 12 | | | | | | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | | | | | 12 | | |
| | | | | | | 9 | | | | | | | | |
| | 6 | 9 | 8 | | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | 2 | 9 | | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | | | | | |
| | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | | 12 | 9 | 3 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 11 | 8 | 1 | 8 | | 11 | 1 | 3 | 2 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 1 | 7 | 9 | | 10 | 2 | 7 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 21 | 4 | 9 | 8 | | 11 | 9 | 8 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 24 | | | | | | | | |

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